

May 15, 2010

WASHINGTON, DC - U.S. Rep. Michael A. Arcuri (NY-24) presented Zachary Wells of Cortland High school with the first place prize in this year's Artistic Discovery Congressional Art Competition in a ceremony this past weekend at the Pratt Institute at Munson-Williams-Proctor Arts Institute in Utica.

"I want to congratulate this year's winners and all of the students and teachers who participated in this year's competition," **Arcuri said**. "I am proud to sponsor the Congressional Art Competition which expands artistic opportunity for local students and gives them the opportunity to share their talent with the rest of the country."

Arcuri presented the following awards on Saturday, May 15th:

1st place: Zachary Wells, Cortland High School, "Tools of the Trade"

- Wells picture will be sent to Washington, DC, to be displayed in the U.S. Capitol. Wells will also be invited to a reception in Washington, DC along with winners from each other congressional district.

2nd place: Theresa Lapuma, Whitesboro High School, "Times Square"

- Lapuma's piece will be on display in Arcuri's Washington, DC office.

3rd place: Maureen Bishop, Whitesboro High School, "What's His Name?"

- Bishop's piece will be on display in Arcuri's Utica District Office.

Honorable Mention: Mallory Norton, Norwich High School, "Self Portrait"

Local art competitions have been held in each county in the 24th congressional district and county winners were displayed in the School of Art Gallery.

The Artistic Discovery art competition is part of a nationwide art competition for high school students, sponsored each year by the Congressional Art Caucus, of which Arcuri is a member, and coordinated by Members of the U.S. House of Representatives in their districts. Beginning with the first competition in 1982, it has become a tradition to recognize and encourage artistic creativity in young artists.

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